

California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region

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San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board issues Cleanup and Abatement Order to Sausalito District over 720,000 gallon Sewer Spill in San Francisco Bay

Oakland - The Sausalito-Marin City Sanitary District (discharger) has received a Cleanup and Abatement Order from the San Francisco Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board) requiring it to immediately clean up primary treated sewage discharged into San Francisco Bay. At this point, the spill from an underwater pipe at the discharger's Ft. Baker Wastewater Treatment Plant is estimated at a minimum of 720,000 gallons.

The spill was first reported on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, and continued through Thursday, February 20, 2009. Its starting time is undetermined. The discharger made initial attempts at repair that were not fully successful on February 18, 2009, and did not complete the process until the next evening. Primary treated sewage has had most solid material removed, but has not been treated for pathogens or chemical contaminants.

The Cleanup and Abatement Order from the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board requires the discharger to immediately:

- 1) Monitor the effectiveness of its repairs,
- 2) Clean up any residual contamination,
- 3) Inspect and assess the integrity of all its pipes and other facilities within the SF Bay intertidal zone.

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board also requires the discharger supply within 60 days a report including all relevant records, permits and other documents relating to this spill, as well as an assessment of its overall facilities, identifying any further threats to San Francisco Bay or other waters of the State of California, as well as possible remedies to those threats.

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board's mission is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and to ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.

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